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## **ABSTRACT**

## Communications Network

In a communications network, a network node is connected to a signal source external to the network. The node receives control signals including a control field which may take one of a number of different values. The node overwrites the control field with an allowed value determined by the network operator. The control field may determine the routing of signals, in which case the node by overwriting the control field may restrict the routing of signals from outside of the network to a simple point-to-point connection.